



We are a welcoming Christian community which embraces all people.
We support each other to grow in faith and create a loving and compassionate community.
We aspire to live as Christ's witnesses of God's unconditional love.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15 – 1 – 23

This week: Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34
Next week: Is 32:15-18; Cor 12:4-11; Lk 13: 22-32

To be able to read a signpost.

An essential ability if you're going to navigate your way on a car trip.
Today's Gospel asks whether we're able to read the signposts with which *Life* is strewn:
signposts which point to where God is, and what God is asking.
John the Baptist *points*: **"Look, there is the Lamb of God"**.
Jesus – externally – would have looked no different to anyone else. But John could read beyond and beneath the surface.

And as baptised people we're called to do the same.

To be able to see the extraordinary in the ordinary –
which is the call of this Ordinary Time of the Church year:

to be able to discern God's presence and call
where we might not expect it,
and where we might not want it.

Fr Colin

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME DATES FOR 2023—AN UPDATE:

The letter giving all the details and dates for our Sacramental Preparation Programmes for 2023 is now available **on the parish website** at :
www.lindfieldkillara.org.au/sacraments

Please note that the date for Confirmation has changed by just one week from what was previously advised.. The dates for the preparation programme remain unchanged. The new date and the updated letter are available via the link above.



Parish retreats at Tarrawarra Abbey:

the door is closing.....!

CLOSING SOON !

The time has come to decide whether we will be able to offer one or two parish retreats at Tarrawarra Abbey this year.

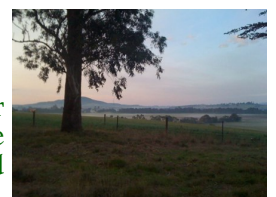
At present there are two options:

- ♦ arrive afternoon Tues. 18th Apr. and depart morning Mon. 24th April (this retreat falls within school holidays)
- ♦ arrive afternoon Tues. 25th April (Anzac Day) and depart morning Mon. 1st May (this falls outside school holidays)

For more information go to www.lindfieldkillara.org.au/retreats

If you would interested in taking part please contact Fr Colin: 0475 558500 or colin@lindfieldkillara.org.au

We currently have a full complement for one retreat and now need to advise the abbey whether we need the second booking.



If you'd like to take part please let Fr Colin know by 31st January.

A SPECIAL FEAST DAY: CANDLEMAS (2ND FEBRUARY)

Our church year is marked by various feasts which each tell the story of God's love in a different way. One of the feasts we celebrate in a special way is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) (2nd February).

This ancient feast, commemorating the prophet Simeon's recognition of the child Jesus (at his presentation in the Temple) as 'the light of God's people', is celebrated 40 days after Christmas. The liturgy begins with the lighting of candles which are brought into the church in joyful procession as Mass begins.

As we bring our candles to be blessed we're reminded that we are people who live in the light of Christ. We take those candles home to be part of our home prayer space for the next twelve months. As we gather on this feast of candles we are doing what Christians have done on this day for nearly two thousand years and affirming our belief - which we celebrated at Christmas - that 'a light shines in the darkness'.

Mass for the celebration of Candlemas will be at 10am on Thursday 2nd February at Lindfield.

Please bring your own candle to be blessed and placed on the altar—and afterwards taken home to your place of prayer. Please ensure that it has a wide base so that it can stand freely when placed on the altar



Don't forget to bring your candle to be blessed!

Food for the soul

ORDINARY TIME

*I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water
was that he might be made known to Israel (Jn 1:31)*

In a marvellous little book entitled, *The Music of Silence*, David Steindl-Rast highlights how each hour of the day has its own special light and its own particular mood and how we are more attentive to the present moment when we recognise and honour these “special angels” lurking inside each hour. He's right. Every hour of the day and every season of the year have something special to give us, but often times we cannot make ourselves present to meet that gift.

We grasp this more easily for special seasons of the year. Even though we are sometimes unable to be very attentive to a season like Christmas or Easter because of various pressures and distractions, we know that these seasons are special and that there are “angels” inside them that are asking to be met. We know what it means when someone says: “This year I was just too tired and pressured to get into the Christmas spirit. I just missed Christmas this year!”

And this isn't true just for special seasons like Christmas & Easter. It's true too, perhaps especially true, for the season we call Ordinary Time. Each year the church calendar sets aside more than thirty weeks for what it calls “Ordinary Time,” a season within which we are supposed to meet the angels of routine, regularity, domesticity, predictability, & ordinariness. Like seasons of high feast, this season too is meant to bring a special richness into our lives.

But it's easy to miss that season and its intent, both of them. The term “Ordinary Time” sounds bland to us, even as we unconsciously long for precisely what it is meant to bring. We have precious little “ordinary time” in our lives.

As our lives grow more pressured, more tired, and more restless, perhaps more than anything else we long for ordinary time, quiet, routine, solitude, and space away from the hectic pace of life. For many of us the very expression, “ordinary time,” draws forth a sigh along with the question: “What's that? When did I last have 'ordinary time' in my life?” For many of us “ordinary time” means mostly hurry and pressure, “the rat race,” “the treadmill.”

Many things in our lives conspire against “ordinary time,” not just the busyness that robs us of leisure, but also the heartaches, the obsessions, the loss of health, or the other interruptions to the ordinary that make a mockery of normal routine and rhythm and rob us of even the sense of “ordinary time.” That's the bane of adulthood.

Many of us, I suspect, remember the opposite as being true for us when we were children. I recall as a child often

being bored. I longed almost always for a distraction, for someone to visit our home, for special seasons to celebrate (birthdays, Christmas, New Year's, Easter), for most anything to shake up the normal routine of “ordinary time.” But that's because time moves so slowly for a child. When you're seven years old, one year constitutes one-seventh of your life. That's a long time. In mid-life and beyond, one year is a tiny fraction of your life and so time speeds up—so much so in fact that, at a point, you also sometimes begin to long for special occasions to be over with, for visitors to go home, and for distractions to disappear so that you can return to a more ordinary rhythm in your life. Routine might be boring, but we sleep a lot better when our lives are being visited by the angels of routine and the ordinary.

Today there's a rich literature in both secular & religious circles that speaks of the difficulties of being attentive to the present moment, of meeting, as Richard Rohr puts it, “the naked now,” or what David Steindl-Rast calls, “the angels of the hour.” The literature varies greatly in content & intent, but it agrees on one point: it's extremely difficult to be attentive to the present moment, to be truly inside the present. It's not easy to live inside “ordinary time.”

There's a Chinese expression that functions both as a blessing and a curse. You make this wish for someone: may you live in interesting times! As children, had someone wished that on us it would have meant a blessing; our lives then were replete with routine and the ordinary. For a child time moves slowly. Most children have enough of ordinary time.

However, as adults, for most of us, that wish is probably more curse than blessing: the pressures, heartaches, illnesses, losses, demands, and seemly perpetual interruptions that beset our lives, though perhaps not normally recognised as “interesting times,” are indeed the antithesis of routine, regularity, domesticity, predictability, and ordinariness. And they deprive us of “ordinary time.”

The church challenges us to be attentive to the various seasons of the year: Advent, Lent, Christmas, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost. Today, I submit, it needs to challenge us particularly to be attentive to “ordinary time.”

Our failure to be attentive here is perhaps our greatest liturgical shortcoming.

(Fr Ron Rolheiser omi, The Centre for Liturgy, University of St Louis)

**The Chinese Catholic Community
cordially invites you to join us
in celebration of The 25th Anniversary of its Lindfield Centre
and**

**Lunar New Year
華人天主教會慶祝**

**北區中心二十五週年暨農曆新年感恩祭
at Holy Family Catholic Church Sunday 22nd January
12:00 noon Thanksgiving Mass
Main Celebrant: Very Rev. Dr David Ranson VG**

**Broken Bay教區副主教David Ranson主禮
Celebration Lunch after Mass at St Brigid's Hall
隨後於禮堂舉行午餐慶祝**

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THE DEATH OF CARDINAL GEORGE PELL

Fr David Ranson, our Vicar General (and administrator of the diocese during Bishop Anthony Randazzo's holidays) has written us a letter on the occasion of Cardinal Pell's death. It can be found at: www.lindfieldkillara.org.au/stoppress

A Memorial Mass for the late Cardinal will be celebrated this Monday 16th at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, 23 Yardley Ave Waitara, at 6:00pm—all are welcome.

THE PRAYERS AND RESPONSES OF MASS

GLORIA:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PSALM 39: 2,4,7-10

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and the Lord stooped down to me;
God heard my cry.
The Lord put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

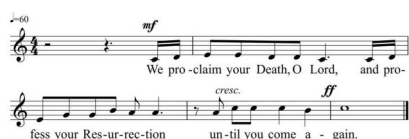
In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and
dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to
become the children of God. Alleluia!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



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**Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us
the gift of everlasting life. Grant that life to:**

*Please pray for the gift of eternal life for Peter (Brian)
Cahill of our parish who died during the week.*

Recently deceased: Peter Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI,
George Cardinal Pell, Kevin Surplice, John McNicol, Eric
Cannell. **Anniversary:** Freda Mercer. **And for:** John
Quirk, Bini Szacsavay.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Jack Sullivan, Jessica Keen, Therese Playoust, Ali
Crawford, Mark Spring, Jeanette Cicutto, Morna
Sutherland, Barbara McMullen, Nicholas Sutherland,
Jesse Langford, Anthony Ellison, Cyril Ferriere, Alex
Noble, William Wise, Russell Adams, Opheilia Mari and
Nena Umali, Rosanna Comastri.

And for all affected by COVID.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,

(all bow at the following words in bold):

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,**
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

SUNDAY MASS ROSTER

Saturday		14 Jan.	21 Jan.
Lindfield	6:00 pm	Fr Colin	Fr Thomas
Killara	5:30 pm	Fr Thomas	Fr Thomas
Sunday		15 Jan.	22 Jan.
Lindfield	8:30 am	Fr Colin	Fr Thomas
Killara	9:00 am	Fr Thomas	Fr Colin
Lindfield	10:15 am	Fr Colin	Fr Thomas
Lindfield	12:00 pm	No Mass	Fr David Ranson
Lindfield	6:00pm	Fr Colin	Fr Colin

Weekday Masses this week:

Mon. **NO Mass;**
Tues. **10am** at Killara (Memoria, St Antony of Egypt).
Wed. to Fri.: 10am at Lindfield

Parish Office back to normal: Tues.-Fri.: 9:30am-4:00pm

Ways that you can support our parish

- ♦ **BY DIRECT DEBIT CONTRIBUTIONS** from your bank account to our parish accounts:

1st Collection: (providing for Frs Colin & Thomas & also for retired & sick clergy of the diocese):

BSB 062 784 Acct 10000 1624

Second Collection: (providing for all the operating costs of the parish): BSB 062 784 Acct 10000 1623

OR

- ♦ **CREDIT CARD CONTRIBUTIONS:** scan this code & then select each of our two parish collections:

OR

- ♦ **YOU CAN ARRANGE FOR PERIODIC PAYMENTS FROM YOUR CREDIT CARD:** just click on the hotlink box entitled 'Supporting parish finances' on the homepage of our website (www.lindfieldkillara.org.au) and scroll down to 2i.b. for the form. (or simply email accounts@lindfieldkillara.org.au for assistance.

- ♦ **TAP MACHINES** are available in our two churches.



HYMNS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE HYMN: TABLE OF PLENTY

Refrain: Come to the feast of heaven and earth!
Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need,
here at the table of plenty.

1. O come and sit at my table
where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
to share the cup of my love.

2. My bread will ever sustain you
through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness
to flood the depths of your soul.

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DEDICATION OF THE GIFTS:

Refrain: Seek, O seek the Lord, while He is near;
Trust Him, speak to Him in prayer, and He will hear.

God be with us in our lives,
direct us in our calling;
break the snares the world contrives,
keep us from falling. **Ref.**

God, increase in us the life
that Christ by dying gave us.
Though we faint with mortal strife,
His blood will save us. **Ref.**

Strengthen in our hearts the love
we owe to one another.
How can we love God above
and not each other? **Refrain**

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COMMUNION: OUR SUPPER INVITATION

1. Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.
Take of my life and live,
branch of my vine.
Let me befriend you now;

eat take your fill.
Don't be afraid to dream;
love has its will.

2. Take up your burden now,
walk 'til you find
Just what the journey means;
walk while there's time.
Food for the journey
will answer your need.
Don't be afraid to walk;
love, my love will lead.

3. Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.
Be a sweet nourishment
to good friends of mine.
Let me befriend you now;
eat, take your fill.
Share with your people,
that love has its will.

4. Take of my bread and eat,
drink my new wine.
Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.

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RECESSIONAL: BLEST BE THE LORD

Antiphon: Blest be the Lord; blest be the Lord,
The God of mercy, the God who saves.
I shall not fear the dark of night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day.

He will release me from the nets of all my foes.
He will protect me from their wicked hands.
Beneath the shadows of his wings I will rejoice
To find a dwelling place secure.

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand alone before the light of day.
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down,
No evil settle in my soul.

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Celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Chinese Catholic Community at Lindfield and of the Lunar New Year:

at the 12 noon Mass next Sunday 22nd January
in Holy Family Church at Lindfield

Celebrant: our Vicar-General, Rev. Dr David Ranson,
with Frs Colin and Thomas concelebrating

All welcome !

We join together as a parish community in congratulating
our Chinese Catholic Community on this wonderful
milestone



THE DEATH OF GEORGE CARDINAL PELL

We join in praying for the repose of the soul of Cardinal Pell who died last Wednesday and trust that he is embraced by the love and mercy of God.

The occasion of Cardinal Pell's death brings of course many different reactions - gratitude for his life of service in the Church, sorrow and perhaps anger at his unjust imprisonment, and of course for those who have suffered the crime of abuse a rekindling of memories of that awful pain.

For ourselves as members of the Church there has also been, as a result of this week's media reports, a re-kindling of our shame and anger at the crimes of abuse which have occurred where they should never have occurred, and at the hands of those who should have been mirrors of God's tenderness.

What sustains us is two-fold: our renewed commitment as disciples to ensure that our communities are always safe places for the vulnerable; and the strength we draw from knowing that, despite the failures of some members of the Church, we ourselves have experienced in our lives the grace of God revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord and the power of the Holy Spirit to enable us to play our part in ensuring that the Church is always a place of God's grace and love.

Fr Colin